

1 TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET

2 Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

3 (Amendment)

4 301 KAR 2:132. Elk hunting seasons, permits, zones, and requirements~~[quota hunts, elk~~  
5 ~~depredation permits, landowner cooperator permits, and voucher cooperator permits]~~.

6 RELATES TO: KRS 150.010, 150.170(4), 150.180, 150.990

7 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 150.025(1), 150.105, 150.177, 150.178, 150.390(3)

8 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 150.025(1) authorizes the department  
9 to promulgate administrative regulations to establish open seasons for the taking of  
10 wildlife, to regulate bag limits and methods of take, and to make these requirements apply  
11 to a limited area. KRS 150.177 authorizes the department to issue special commission  
12 permits for game species to nonprofit wildlife conservation organizations. KRS 150.178  
13 authorizes the department to issue cooperator permits to landowners who enroll property  
14 for public hunting access. KRS 150.390(3) authorizes the department to promulgate  
15 administrative regulations establishing the conditions under which depredation permits  
16 for elk may be issued. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for the  
17 elk permit drawing and quota hunts, the conditions under which special commission and  
18 landowner cooperator permits can be used, procedures for elk damage abatement, and

any postseason hunt held after the quota hunts.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Antlered elk" means an elk having visible polished antler protruding above the hairline.

(2) "Antlerless elk" means an elk without visible polished antler protruding above the hairline.

(3) "Archery equipment" means a long bow, recurve bow, or compound bow incapable of holding an arrow at full or partial draw without aid from the archer.

(4) "At-large" means any portion of the elk zone not included in a limited entry area.

(5)[(4)] "Bait":

(a) Means a substance composed of grains, minerals, salt, fruits, vegetables, hay, or any other food materials, whether natural or manufactured, that could lure, entice, or attract wildlife; and

(b) Does not mean the establishment and maintenance of plantings for wildlife, foods found scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural planning or harvesting practices, foods available to wildlife through normal agricultural practices of livestock feeding if the areas are occupied by livestock actively consuming the feed on a daily basis, or standing farm crops under normal agricultural practices.

(6) "Crossbow" means a bow designed or fitted with a device to hold an arrow at full or partial draw without aid from the archer.

(7)[(5)] "Electronic decoy" means a motorized decoy powered by electricity, regardless

of source.

(8) [(6)] "Elk" means *Cervus elaphus nelsoni*.

(9) [(7)] "Elk Management Unit" or "EMU" means a designated area in the restoration zone with specific management restrictions for a post-season antlerless elk quota hunt.

(10) "Elk Restoration Permit" or "ERP" means an elk permit given to a landowner or lessee who allows the department to capture elk on the landowner or lessee's property for restoration or restocking purposes.

(11) "Firearm" means a breech or muzzle-loading rifle, shotgun, or handgun.

(12) [(8)] "Landowner cooperator" means a landowner or lessee who owns or leases at least 5,000 acres of land in the restoration zone and enters into an agreement with the department to allow public access and hunting for at least five (5) years.

(13) [(9)] "Limited Entry Area" or "LEA" means a designated area in the restoration zone with specific management restrictions.

(14) "Muzzleloader" means a rifle, shotgun, or handgun that is loaded from the discharging end of the barrel or discharging end of the cylinder.

(15) [(10)] "Out-of-zone" means all counties not included in the restoration zone.

(16) [(11)] "Restoration zone" means the Kentucky counties: Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Harlan, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, McCreary, Perry, Pike, and Whitley.

(17) [(12)] "Spike" means an elk having one (1) or two (2) antler points on each side.

1        ~~(18)~~~~[(13)]~~ "Voucher cooperator" means a landowner or lessee who owns or leases at  
2        least 100 acres of land in the restoration zone and enters into an agreement with the  
3        department to allow elk hunting access.

4        ~~(19)~~~~[(14)]~~ "Youth" means a person under the age of sixteen (16) by the first date of the  
5        hunt.

6        Section 2. Elk Damage Control. The department may authorize the removal or  
7        destruction of elk that are causing property damage. A person authorized to destroy an  
8        elk shall:

9        (1) Attach a department-issued destruction tag~~[disposal permit]~~ to an elk prior to  
10       moving the carcass; and

11       (2) Not remove the destruction tag~~[disposal permit]~~ until the carcass is processed.

12       Section 3. Elk Quota Hunts. (1) The elk quota hunt application period shall be January  
13       1 to April 30.

14       (2) An applicant shall:

15       (a) Complete the elk quota hunt application process on the department's Web site at  
16       fw.ky.gov; and

17       (b) Pay a nonrefundable application fee of ten (10) dollars.

18       (3) The commissioner shall extend the application deadline if technical difficulties with  
19       the application system prevent applications from being accepted for one (1) or more days  
20       during the application period.

(4) There shall be a random electronic drawing from each applicant pool.

(5) Youth may enter a separate drawing pool for ten (10) either-sex elk permits. These permits shall be valid for use during all elk seasons:

(a) Anywhere in the at-large portion of the restoration zone; or

(b) Within an LEA if the youth applies for and is drawn for an LEA, pursuant to Section 7[6](3) of this administrative regulation.

(6) A youth applicant shall not apply for the youth-only elk quota hunt more than once per application period.

(7) An applicant for the youth-only elk quota hunt may also apply for the regular quota hunts. The regular quota hunts shall be as established in subsection (12) of this section.

(8) A youth applicant drawn for the youth-only elk quota hunt shall not be drawn in any other elk quota hunt held during the same calendar year.

(9) A youth drawn for the youth-only elk quota hunt shall be ineligible to be drawn in the youth-only elk quota hunt in subsequent years.

(10) Nonresidents shall not comprise more than ten (10) percent of all drawn applicants in each quota hunt pool.

(11) A quota hunt permit awarded from any department-administered drawing shall not be transferable.

(12) In addition to the youth-only quota hunt, there shall be four (4) separate regular elk quota hunts consisting of:

1 (a) Antlered archery and crossbow;

2 (b) Antlered firearms;

3 (c) Antlerless archery and crossbow; and

4 (d) Antlerless firearms.

5 (13) An applicant shall:

6 (a) Apply only once for an individual elk quota hunt;

7 (b) Not be eligible to be drawn in more than one (1) of the four (4) quota hunt pools;

8 (c) Only be selected by a random electronic drawing; and

9 (d) Pay a nonrefundable application fee of ten (10) dollars for each entry.

10 (14) A person who is drawn for an elk quota hunt shall be ineligible to be drawn for  
11 any elk quota hunt for the following three (3) years.

12 (15) A person who does not have access to the department's Web site to apply for any  
13 quota hunt may contact the department toll free at 1-800-858-1549 for assistance in  
14 applying.

15 Section 4. Landowner Cooperator Permits. (1) With the approval of the commission,  
16 the commissioner shall issue to a landowner cooperator:

17 (a) One (1) either-sex permit annually per 5,000 acres of land enrolled with the  
18 department in a hunting access agreement for the duration of the agreement;

19 (b) Two (2) antlerless-only permits annually per 5,000 acres of land enrolled with the  
20 department in a hunting access agreement for the duration of the agreement; or

1 (c) One (1) antlerless-only permit annually per 5,000 acres of land enrolled with the  
2 department in an elk hunting access agreement for the duration of the agreement.

3 (2) A recipient of a landowner cooperator permit shall comply with the season, bag  
4 limit, and hunter requirements in Sections 7[6] and 8[7] of this administrative regulation.

5 (3) A landowner cooperator permit shall only be used on the land that is established in  
6 the agreement, except that it may be used on adjacent property if:

7 (a) The adjacent property is owned by a different landowner; and

8 (b) The adjacent landowner has granted permission to the permit holder.

9 (4) A landowner cooperator permit may be transferred to any person eligible to hunt  
10 in Kentucky, but prior to hunting, the landowner cooperator or person who has received  
11 the transferred permit shall provide the department with the hunter's:

12 1. Name;

13 2. Social Security number;

14 3. Address; and

15 4. Telephone number.

16 (5) The landowner cooperator permit shall not be transferable if it was already used for  
17 the harvest of one (1) elk.

18 (6) Public access agreements with the department shall be recorded in writing.

19 Section 5. Voucher Cooperator Permits (1) A voucher cooperator shall accrue:

20 (a) Two (2) voucher points for each legally harvested antlered elk; and

(b) One (1) voucher point for each legally harvested antlerless elk.

(2) A voucher cooperator who accrues twenty (20) total points on land enrolled pursuant to Section 1~~(18)~~~~(13)~~ of this administrative regulation shall receive one (1) either-sex elk permit from the department.

(3) A recipient of a voucher cooperator elk permit shall comply with all of the requirements established in Sections 7~~[6]~~ and 8~~[7]~~ of this administrative regulation.

(4) A voucher cooperator elk permit shall only be used on:

(a) The property enrolled with the department per agreement; or

(b) Other property that the landowner or lessee owns or leases.

(5) A voucher cooperator permit may be transferable to any person eligible to hunt in Kentucky.

(6) If a voucher cooperator permit is to be transferred, then the landowner, lessee, or person who has received the transferred permit shall provide to the department by August 15 the hunter's:

(a) Name;

(b) Social security number;

(c) Address; and

(d) Telephone number.

(7) A permit shall not be transferable after being used for the harvest of an elk.

Section 6. Elk Restoration Permits. (1) A landowner or lessee who allows the



department to capture elk on the landowner or lessee's property shall accrue:

(a) Two (2) points for each male elk captured; and

(b) One (1) point for each female elk captured.

(2) A landowner or lessee who accrues twenty (20) total points shall receive one (1) either-sex elk permit from the department that shall only be used the following hunting season.

(3) A recipient of an ERP shall comply with all the requirements established in Sections 7 and 8 of this administrative regulation.

(4) An ERP shall only be used on property that the ERP recipient owns or leases.

(5) An ERP recipient may transfer the permit to any person eligible to hunt in Kentucky.

(6) If an ERP recipient transfers an ERP to another hunter, then the ERP recipient shall provide to the department by August 15 the hunter's:

(a) Name;

(b) Address;

(c) Telephone number; and

(d) Social security number.

(7) An ERP shall be invalid if it has already been used to harvest an elk.

Section 7. Hunter Requirements. (1) A person shall carry proof of purchase of a valid Kentucky hunting license and valid elk permit while hunting, unless exempted by KRS 150.170.

(2) The statewide bag limit shall be one (1) elk per hunter per license year.

(3) If a legal elk hunter kills any elk, then:

(a) The person shall immediately cease hunting elk for the remainder of the elk season;

and

(b) All elk permits held by that individual shall immediately become invalid.

(4) A drawn hunter may apply to hunt in up to four (4) areas in any combination of the limited entry areas by completing the application process on the department's Web site.

(a) Up to three (3)~~[five (5)]~~ drawn hunters may apply for their LEA choices as a party.

(b) If the party is drawn for the LEA, all hunters in the party shall be assigned to that same LEA.

(c) If the number of slots remaining in the quota is less than the number of hunters in the next party selected, the entire party shall be assigned to the party's next choice ranking or to the at-large area.

~~(5)~~~~[(4)]~~ A hunter who does not apply for an LEA or is not drawn for an LEA shall be assigned to the at-large area.

~~(6)~~~~[(5)]~~ A hunter drawn for an LEA may hunt only in the assigned LEA, except that a person who is drawn for any elk quota hunt may hunt on his or her land within the restoration zone.

~~(7)~~~~[(6)]~~ An elk hunter or any person accompanying an elk hunter shall comply with hunter orange requirements established in 301 KAR 2:172.

1     ~~(8)~~~~(7)~~ An elk hunter shall not:

2     (a) Take elk except during daylight hours;

3     (b) Use dogs, except to recover wounded elk using leashed tracking dogs;

4     (c) Hunt over bait inside the elk restoration zone;

5     (d) Drive elk from outside the assigned area;

6     (e) Take an elk while it is swimming;

7     (f) Use electronic calls or electronic decoys; or

8     (g) Take an elk if the hunter is in a vehicle, boat, or on horseback, except that a disabled  
9     hunter who has a hunting method exemption permit issued pursuant to 301 KAR 3:027  
10    may use a stationary vehicle as a hunting platform.

11    ~~(9)~~~~(8)~~ A person shall:

12    (a) Obtain a vehicle tag from the department prior to hunting elk in the restoration  
13    zone; and

14    (b) Display the vehicle tag in the windshield of the vehicle while hunting elk.

15    ~~(10)~~~~(9)~~ A youth shall be accompanied by an adult who shall remain in a position to  
16    take immediate control of the youth's firearm.

17    ~~(11)~~~~(10)~~ An adult accompanying a youth shall not be required to possess a hunting  
18    license or elk permit if the adult is not hunting.

19    ~~[(11) A hunter may use any deer hunting method authorized by 301 KAR 2:172.]~~

20    (12) A person shall only use the weapons and ammunition established in paragraphs

(a) through (e) of this subsection to take an elk:

(a) A crossbow or archery equipment loaded with a ~~[non-barbed]~~ broadhead of seven-eighths (7/8) inch or wider upon expansion;

(b) A firearm:

1. With an action that fires a single round of ammunition upon each manipulation of the trigger;

2. Of .270 caliber or larger; and

3. Loaded with centerfire, single projectile ammunition designed to expand upon impact;

(c) A muzzleloader~~[muzzle-loading firearm]~~ of .50 caliber or larger;

(d) A shotgun of twenty (20) gauge or larger loaded with a shell containing one (1) projectile; or

(e) A handgun loaded with:

1. Centerfire cartridges;

2. Bullets of .270 caliber or larger designed to expand upon impact; and

3. Cartridges with a case length of 1.285 inches or larger.

(13) A crossbow shall contain a working safety device.

(14) An elk hunter shall not use a magazine capable of holding more than ten (10) rounds.

(15) A quota elk hunter shall only take an elk of the type and sex determined by the

1 permit drawn.

2 (16) A hunter drawn for a firearms elk permit shall hunt elk pursuant to that permit only  
3 during the seven (7) day period assigned during the initial drawing.

4 (17) An individual who receives or is transferred a landowner cooperator permit, a  
5 voucher cooperator permit, an elk restoration permit, or a special commission permit may  
6 hunt in all of the antlered-only or antlerless-only quota hunts and shall hunt in accordance  
7 with the seasons and limits established in Section 7 of this administrative regulation.

8 (18) A person who is drawn for an archery or crossbow permit or has a landowner  
9 cooperator permit, a special commission permit, an elk restoration permit, or voucher  
10 cooperator permit may hunt with a crossbow during all archery and crossbow seasons, if  
11 at the time of the hunt, the person:

12 (a) Is a youth;

13 (b) Is sixty-five (65) years or older; or

14 (c) Has a crossbow hunting method exemption permit for hunting deer pursuant to  
15 301 KAR 3:027.

16 Section 8[7]. Elk Quota Hunt Seasons and Limits. (1) A person drawn for an antlerless  
17 or antlered archery and crossbow permit shall not hunt when an elk firearms season is  
18 open.

19 (2) A person drawn for an antlered archery and crossbow permit shall use:

20 (a) Archery equipment to take an antlered elk beginning the third Saturday in

September through December 31~~[the third Monday in January]~~; and

(b) A crossbow to take an antlered elk from the fourth Saturday in September through ~~[the fourth Friday in]~~ December 31.

(3) A person drawn for an antlerless archery and crossbow permit shall use:

(a) Archery equipment to take an antlerless elk beginning the second~~[third]~~ Saturday in October through ~~[the third Monday in January]~~ December 31; and

(b) A crossbow to take an antlerless elk from the second~~[third]~~ Saturday in October ~~through~~~~[to the fourth Friday in]~~ December 31.

(4) A person drawn for an antlered firearms permit shall use any legal weapon as established in Section 7(12) of this administrative regulation~~[a modern gun or muzzleloader]~~ to take an antlered elk during one (1) of two (2) seven (7) day periods randomly assigned by the department from the:

(a) Last~~[First]~~ Saturday in September~~[October]~~ for seven (7) consecutive days; or

(b) First~~[Second]~~ Saturday in October for seven (7) consecutive days.

(5) A person drawn for an antlerless firearms permit shall use any legal weapon as established in Section 7(12) of this administrative regulation~~[a modern gun or muzzleloader]~~ to take an antlerless elk during one (1) of two (2) seven (7) periods randomly assigned by the department from the:

(a) Second Saturday in December for seven (7) consecutive days; or

(b) Third~~[First]~~ Saturday in December~~[January]~~ for seven (7) consecutive days.

1 Section 9[8]. LEA Boundaries. (1) Hazard LEA - Starting at the intersection of State Hwy  
2 476 and State Hwy 80, the boundary proceeds east on Hwy 80 to the intersection with  
3 State Hwy 3209. The boundary then goes west on Hwy 3209 to the intersection with State  
4 Hwy 1087. The boundary then goes east on Hwy 1087 to the intersection with State Hwy  
5 1098 near Yellow Mountain. The boundary then follows Hwy 1098 north and west to the  
6 intersection with State Hwy 15 near Quicksand. The boundary then goes south on Hwy 15  
7 to the intersection with State Hwy 476 near Lost Creek. The boundary then goes south on  
8 Hwy 476 to the intersection with State Highway 80, completing the boundary.

9 (2) Levisa Fork LEA - Starting at the intersection of State Hwy 1789 and State Hwy 460  
10 at Millard, the boundary proceeds south and east on Hwy 460 to the intersection of Hwy  
11 460 and State Hwy 1499 at Mouthcard. The boundary then runs north along State Hwy  
12 1499 to the intersection of State Hwy 1499 and State Hwy 194. It then runs west and north  
13 on Hwy 194 to the intersection of Hwy 194 and State Hwy 3418 (Ridge Line Road). The  
14 boundary then runs west on Hwy 3418 to the intersection of State Hwy 3418 and Raccoon  
15 Road. The boundary then runs west on Raccoon Road to the intersection of Raccoon Road  
16 and State Hwy 1441. The boundary then runs south along Hwy 1441 to the intersection  
17 of State Hwy 1441 and State Highway 1789. The boundary then runs west to the  
18 intersection of Hwy 1789 and State Highway 460, completing the boundary.

19 (3) Middlesboro LEA - Starting at the intersection of US Hwy 25E and the Tennessee  
20 border at Middlesboro, the boundary proceeds southward and westward on the

1 Tennessee and Kentucky border until the intersection of State Hwy 190. The boundary  
2 proceeds northward and westward on State Hwy 190 to the intersection of US Hwy 25E.  
3 The boundary then goes south on US Hwy 25E to the Tennessee border, completing the  
4 boundary.

5 (4) Prestonsburg LEA - The area shall be within the boundary of the Czar Hunter Access  
6 Area as indicated by signage.

7 (5) Straight Creek LEA - Starting at the intersection of State Hwy 66 and State Hwy 221  
8 at Straight Creek, the boundary proceeds east on State Hwy 221 to the intersection with  
9 State Hwy 2009. The boundary then proceeds north along State Hwy 2009 to the  
10 intersection with US Route 421. The boundary then proceeds north on US Route 421 to  
11 the intersection with State Hwy 406 near Stinnett. The boundary then follows State Hwy  
12 406 west to the intersection with State Highway 66. The boundary then follows State Hwy  
13 66 south to the intersection with Hwy 221 to complete the boundary.

14 (6) Tug Fork LEA - The area shall be within the boundary of the Revelation Energy  
15 Hunter Access Areas in Martin, Pike, and Floyd Counties, as established by signage.

16 Section 10[9]. Post-season Quota Hunt on Private Land. (1) A modern firearms quota  
17 hunt for antlerless elk and spikes shall take place beginning on the fourth Saturday in  
18 January for fourteen (14) consecutive days.

19 (2) Each hunter shall be randomly drawn from the pool of applicants who:

20 (a) Were not drawn for the previous elk quota hunts; and



(b) Are residents of counties included, wholly or in part, within an EMU boundary.

(3) A drawn applicant shall comply with the requirements in Section 7[6] of this administrative regulation except that an applicant may hunt only in the assigned EMU or on land the applicant owns within another EMU.

(4) The EMU boundaries shall be as incorporated by reference in this administrative regulation[.]

~~(a) Knott County EMU – Starting at the intersection of Kentucky Route 777 and Kentucky Route 550 near Porter Junction, the boundary proceeds east along Kentucky Route 777 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 680. The boundary then proceeds east along Kentucky Route 680 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 122 at Minnie. The boundary proceeds south along Kentucky Route 122 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 1498 near Bevinville. The boundary then continues south on Kentucky Route 1498 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 7. The boundary then proceeds south on Kentucky Route 7 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 1410. The boundary then proceeds west on Kentucky Route 1410 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 160. The boundary then proceeds north on Kentucky Route 160 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 550 in Hindman. The boundary then proceeds north on Kentucky Route 550 to the intersection with Kentucky Route 7, with which Kentucky Route 550 merges and both continue north, to the intersection with Kentucky Route 777 near Porter Junction, thus completing the boundary.~~

1       ~~(b) Stoney Fork EMU -- Starting at the intersection of State Hwy 2058 and U.S. Hwy 421~~  
2       ~~near Helton, the boundary then proceeds south along U.S. Hwy 421 to the intersection of~~  
3       ~~U.S. Hwy 421 and U.S. Hwy 119 near Harlan, then west along U.S. Hwy 119 to the~~  
4       ~~intersection of U.S. Hwy 119 and U.S. Hwy 25E. The boundary then goes north following~~  
5       ~~U.S. Hwy 25E to the intersection with State Hwy 66, then north on State Hwy 66 to the~~  
6       ~~intersection of State Hwys 66 and 1850, then east along State Hwy 1850 to the intersection~~  
7       ~~of State Hwys 1850 and 1780 at Warbranch. The boundary then proceeds south on State~~  
8       ~~Hwy 1780 to its intersection with State Hwy 2058 near Spruce Pine, then east on State~~  
9       ~~Hwy 2058 back to U.S. Hwy 421 at Helton, thus completing the boundary].~~

10       (5) Any public hunting area within an EMU shall be closed to elk hunting during this  
11       season.

12       Section 11~~[10]~~. Tagging and Checking Requirements. (1) Immediately after taking an  
13       elk, a hunter shall record on a hunter's log:

14       (a) The species harvested;

15       (b) The sex of the animal;

16       (c) Date of harvest; and

17       (d) County of harvest.

18       (2) A hunter shall check a harvested elk before midnight on the day the elk is recovered  
19       by:

20       (a) Calling (800) 245-4263 and providing the requested information; or

(b) Completing the online check-in process at fw.ky.gov.

(3) A hunter who has checked in an elk shall record the confirmation number on a hunter's log.

(4) If the hide or head is removed from the carcass before the elk is checked in, then the hunter shall be required to demonstrate proof of the sex of the elk.

(a) For antlered elk the hunter shall retain the:

1. Head with antlers; or

2. Testicles, scrotum, or penis attached to the carcass; or

(b) For antlerless elk the hunter shall retain the:

1. Head; or

2. Udder or vulva attached to the carcass.

(5) If a harvested elk leaves the possession of the hunter, the hunter shall attach to the carcass a hand-made tag that contains the hunter's:

(a) Confirmation number;

(b) Name; and

(c) Telephone number.

(6) A person shall not provide false information in:

(a) Completing the hunter's log;

(b) Checking an elk; or

(c) Creating a carcass tag.

Section 12~~[11]~~. Elk Hunting on Public Land. (1) A person drawn for an elk quota hunt or the recipient of a special commission permit may hunt on the areas listed in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this subsection within the restoration zone pursuant to the conditions of the permit received:

(a) Wildlife Management Areas;

(b) Hunter Access Areas;

(c) State forests;

(d) Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area;

(e) Daniel Boone National Forest; or

(f) Jefferson National Forest.

(2) Portions of Paintsville Lake WMA that lie out of the restoration zone shall be subject to the requirements established in Section 13~~[12]~~ of this administrative regulation.

(3) Elk hunting shall not be allowed on public areas during quota deer hunts listed in 301 KAR 2:178.

(4) Paul Van Booven WMA.

(a) The archery and crossbow seasons shall be open as established in Section 8~~[7]~~ of this administrative regulation.

(b) A firearm shall not be used to hunt elk.

(5) A person shall not mimic the sound of an elk on public land open to elk hunting from September 1 until the opening of the elk archery season.

1 Section 13[12]. Out-of-zone Elk Hunting. (1) The methods for taking deer and the deer  
2 seasons established in 301 KAR 2:172 shall apply to a person taking elk outside of the  
3 restoration zone, except that a hunter shall comply with the weapons and ammunition  
4 requirements established in Section 7[6] of this administrative regulation.

5 (2) Unless exempted by KRS 150.170, a person who is hunting out-of-zone elk shall  
6 possess:

7 (a) A valid Kentucky hunting license; and

8 (b) An out-of-zone elk permit.

9 (3) A person may take an elk of either sex, which shall not count toward the person's  
10 deer bag limit.

11 (4) Any elk harvested out-of-zone shall be telechecked pursuant to Section 11[10] of  
12 this administrative regulation.

13 Section 14[13]. A person who takes possession of any elk antler that has the skull or  
14 skull plate attached to it shall contact the department's Law Enforcement Division within  
15 twenty-four (24) hours to obtain a disposal permit.

16 Section 15[14]. A person who is the recipient of a valid elk quota hunt permit,  
17 landowner cooperator permit, voucher cooperator permit, an ERP, or special commission  
18 permit may defer use of the permit to the following year if:

19 (1) There is a death of the permit holder's:

20 (a) Spouse;

1 (b) Child; or

2 (c) Legal guardian, if the permit holder is under eighteen (18) years old; and

3 (2) The permit holder provides to the department a death certificate and one (1) of the  
4 following documents prior to May 1 of the year following the hunting season:

5 (a) A marriage certificate;

6 (b) A birth certificate; or

7 (c) An affidavit of paternity or maternity.

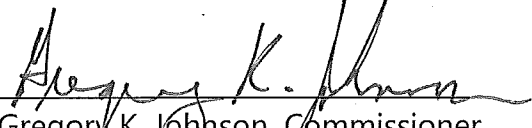
8 Section 16. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following material is incorporated by  
9 reference:


10 (a) "Knott-Floyd Elk Management Unit 2017 Edition" map; and

11 (b) "Mayking Letcher Elk Management Unit 2017 Edition" map.

12 (2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright  
13 law, at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort,  
14 Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m, Eastern time.

Approved by the Fish and Wildlife Commission

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory K. Johnson, Commissioner  
Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Parkinson, Secretary  
Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

Date: 2/9/17

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on March 23, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the Commission Room of the Arnold L. Mitchell Building, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky. Individuals interested in attending this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by five business days prior to the hearing of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be canceled.

This hearing is open to the public. Any person who attends will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made.

If you do not wish to attend the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation through March 31, 2017.

Send written notification of intent to attend the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to:

Mark Cramer  
Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources  
Arnold L. Mitchell Building  
#1 Sportsman's Lane  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
(502) 564-3400 FAX (502) 564-0506  
Email: [fwpubliccomments@ky.gov](mailto:fwpubliccomments@ky.gov)



## **REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT**

301 KAR 2:132. Elk hunting seasons, permits, zones, and requirements.

Contact Person: Mark Cramer

Email: mark.cramer@ky.gov

Phone: 502-564-3400

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does: This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for the elk permit drawing and quota hunts, the conditions under which special commission permits, landowner cooperator permits, elk restoration permits and cooperator voucher permits can be used, procedures for elk damage abatement, and any postseason hunt held after the quota hunts.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation: This administrative regulation is necessary to effectively manage elk populations in Kentucky, while providing optimal elk hunting and tourism opportunities.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: KRS 150.025(1) authorizes the department to promulgate administrative regulations to establish hunting seasons, bag limits, and the methods of taking wildlife. KRS 150.177 authorizes the department to issue special commission permits for game species to nonprofit wildlife conservation organizations. KRS 150.178 authorizes the department to issue cooperator permits to landowners who enroll property for public hunting access. KRS 150.390(3) authorizes the department to promulgate administrative regulations establishing the conditions under which depredation permits for elk may be issued.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This administrative regulation will assist the statutes by establishing the requirements for the elk permit drawing, quota hunts, legal methods of harvest, the conditions under which special commission permits, landowner cooperator permits, elk restoration permits, and voucher cooperator permits can be used, the procedures for elk damage abatement and any postseason hunt held after the quota hunts.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation: The amendment modifies the season length for elk hunting. It also creates the establishment of a new permit, the elk restoration permit, which shall be given to landowners or lessees who allow the department to capture elk for restoration and restocking purposes. The

amendment reduces the group applications for the limited entry area drawing from 5 applicants to 3 applicants. The amendment also creates two new areas for the late season elk hunt.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation: This amendment is necessary to adjust the season length and the department's goal for the long-term elk population. The areas hunted for the late season hunt no longer have elk damage issues, so moving hunters to areas where elk damage is occurring is needed. The amendment is also necessary to create an elk restoration permit for landowners or lessees who allow elk to be captured on their land.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: See 1(c) above.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: See 1(d) above.

(3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation: There are approximately 25,000 to 45,000 people who apply for the elk permit drawing in Kentucky each year, of which approximately 910 are drawn.

(4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment: A drawn hunter will have different season dates compared to previous years. Landowners will now have another option to receive an elk permit via the elk restoration permit. The late season hunters will now have 2 new areas to hunt and the 2 areas that previously had damage were removed.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (3): This amendment will not change any cost to the entities identified in (3).

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3): Landowners who allow the department to capture elk for restoration purposes will benefit from an additional program that allows them to receive elk hunting permits and late season hunters will have new areas where elk nuisance issues are high.

(5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially: Other than a minor administrative cost, there will be no additional cost to the agency to implement this administrative regulation.

(b) On a continuing basis: There will be no additional cost to the agency on a continuing basis.

(6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation: The source of funding is the State Game and Fish Fund.

(7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment: Additional fees for direct implementation of this regulation are not necessary, as infrastructure for conducting all aspects of elk management and quota hunts already exists.

(8) State whether or not this administrative regulation established any fees or directly or indirectly increased any fees: This administrative regulation does not establish any fees nor does it indirectly increase any fees.

(9) TIERING: Is tiering applied? Yes. Residents of the counties within the EMUs who are not drawn for the regular quota hunt shall be eligible for a late season depredation hunt. This hunt allows residents to assist landowners in removing elk causing property damage in 2 areas with chronic nuisance elk problems. These tags can only be used on private land within one of the 2 Elk Management Units (EMUs). The number of tags to be issued will be determined by the level of nuisance elk cases or property damage caused by elk documented within the EMUs prior to January each year.

## **FISCAL NOTE ON STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:132

Contact Person: Mark Cramer

Email: mark.cramer@ky.gov

Phone: 502-564-3400

(1) What units, parts, or divisions of state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) will be impacted by this administrative regulation? The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources' Divisions of Wildlife and Law Enforcement will be impacted by this amendment.

(2) Identify each state or federal statute or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation. KRS 150.025, KRS 150.177, KRS 150.178, and KRS 150.390.

(3) Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and revenues of a state or local government agency (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect.

(a) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first year? For the 2016 elk season, approximately 74,953 applications were purchased at \$10 per application (\$749,530 of revenue to the department). Approximately 721 of the 910 drawn hunters paid for elk permits, generating \$72,000 in additional revenue to the department. Total revenue directly generated by the elk hunts for the department was \$822,000 for the 2016 season.

(b) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for subsequent years? It is estimated that approximately \$600,000 to \$850,000 will be generated from quota hunt applications and elk permits for the department. There is also a positive economic impact to cities, counties and local businesses in and near the elk restoration zone as hunters and tourists visit. This economic impact is estimated at \$2,500,000 annually in or near the elk zone.

(c) How much will it cost to administer this program for the first year? There will be no additional costs for the first year. The department already has mechanisms in place for quota hunt application procedures, random drawings and other aspects of the elk hunts.

(d) How much will it cost to administer this program for subsequent years? There will be no additional costs incurred for subsequent years.

Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.

Revenues (+/-):

Expenditures (+/-):

Other Explanation:

### **Summary of Material Incorporated by Reference**

- (1) The "The Knott-Floyd Elk Management Unit 2017 Edition" map is a one-page, single-sided map that designates the hunting area within the Knott-Floyd Elk Management Unit.
- (2) The "Mayking Letcher Elk Management Unit 2017 Edition" map is a one-page, single-sided map that designates the hunting area within the Mayking Letcher Elk Management Unit.

# Knott-Floyd Elk Management Unit

## 2017 Edition

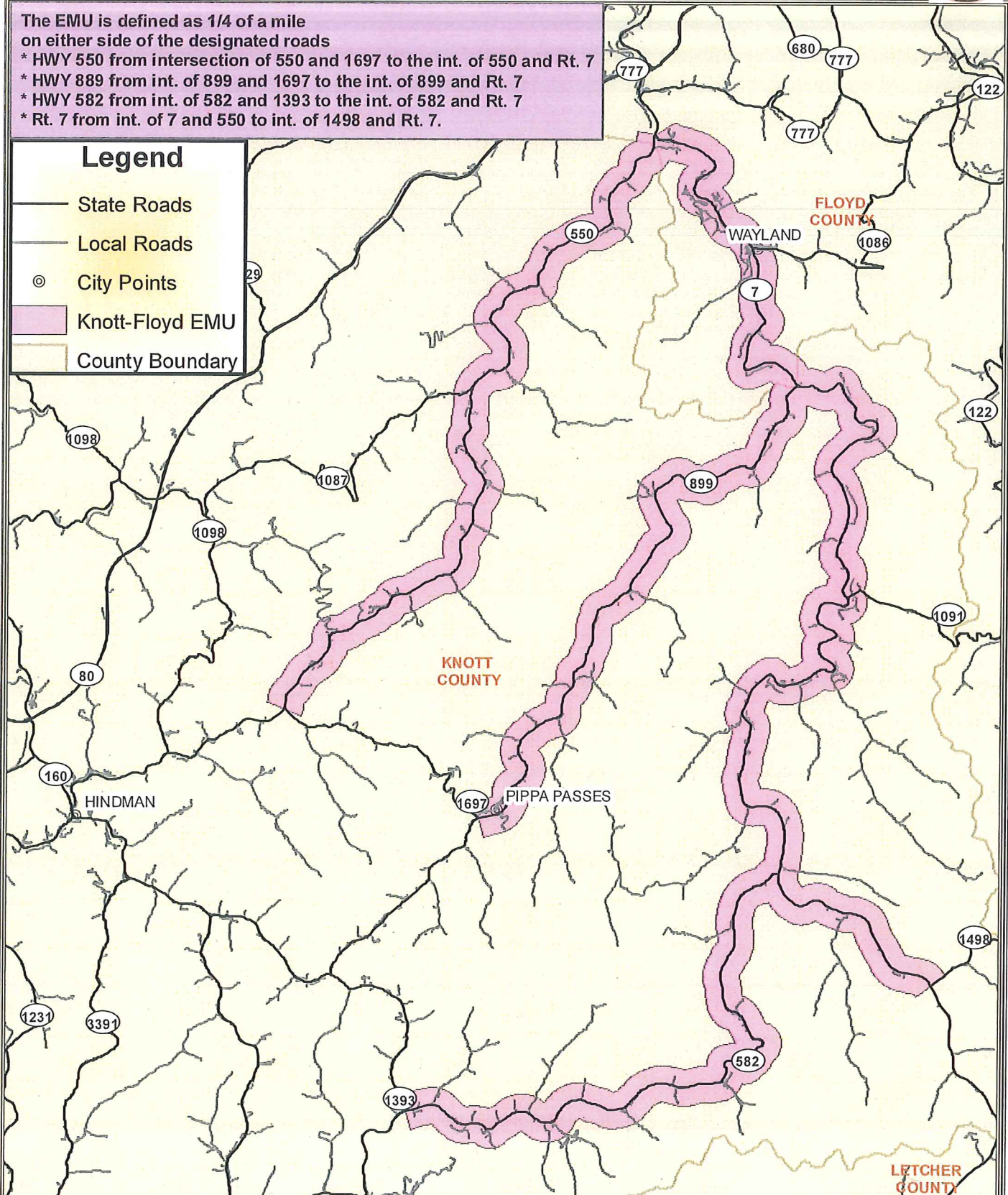


The EMU is defined as 1/4 of a mile on either side of the designated roads

- \* HWY 550 from intersection of 550 and 1697 to the int. of 550 and Rt. 7
- \* HWY 889 from int. of 889 and 1697 to the int. of 889 and Rt. 7
- \* HWY 582 from int. of 582 and 1393 to the int. of 582 and Rt. 7
- \* Rt. 7 from int. of 7 and 550 to int. of 1498 and Rt. 7.

### Legend

- State Roads
- Local Roads
- ⊙ City Points
- Knott-Floyd EMU
- County Boundary



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

1:120,000



# Mayking Letcher Elk Management Unit 2017 Edition



## Legend

● Populated Places

— US Highway 119

— State Roads

— Local Roads

■ Mayking Letcher EMU

The EMU is defined as 1/2 of a mile on either side of the designated roads. HWY 119 from intersection of 119 and 2034 (Ermine) to int. of 119 and 805.

